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EXAMINER

RAMPURIA, SHARAD K

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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.



**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Hooper; Jeff Duwayne et al.** [US 5734980 A] in view of **Barber; Clifton J. et al.** [US 5442806 A].

As per claim 1, **Hooper** teaches:

A circuit ( in view of the steps of Figure 2) operative to acquire a more-preferred stored system identification (SID) element comprising: memory (column 6, lines 41 to 65) containing a roaming list that

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includes a plurality of stored SID elements ranked according to an order of preference (column 6, lines 52 to 54) including at least one more-preferred stored SID element and at least one less-preferred stored SID element (column 6, lines 54 to 65, the more-preferred and less-preferred SID elements are being interpreted to be any SID element that is ranked above Or below respectively one another); and

**Hooper** doesn't teach specifically, logic circuitry, operatively coupled to the memory, and operative to perform a first more-preferred SID acquisition sequence and then a second more-preferred SID acquisition sequence that includes repeatedly attempting acquisition of the at least one more-preferred stored SID element using a same frequency during the second more-preferred SID acquisition sequence. However, **Barber** teaches in an analogous art, that logic circuitry, operatively coupled to the memory, and operative to perform a first more-preferred SID acquisition sequence and then a second more-preferred SID acquisition sequence that includes repeatedly attempting acquisition of the at least one more-preferred stored SID element using a same frequency during the second more-preferred SID acquisition sequence. (e.g. Col.4; 66-Col.5; 27). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to including logic circuitry, operatively coupled to the memory, and operative to perform a first more-preferred SID acquisition sequence and then a second more-preferred SID acquisition sequence that includes repeatedly attempting acquisition of the at least one more-preferred stored SID element using a same frequency during the second more-preferred SID acquisition sequence in order to provide a method and an apparatus for selecting a cellular carrier frequency for accessing cellular airtime services based upon a list of preferred SIDs.

Hooper also discloses all the elements of claims 2, 7, and 11, including wherein the logic circuitry is operative to attempt acquisition of the at least one less-preferred stored SID element as part of performing the second more-preferred SID acquisition sequence. See, column 9, lines 12 to 28 and Figure 2.

Hooper also discloses all the elements/steps of claims 3, 12, and 17, including wherein the logic circuitry is operative to perform the second more-preferred SID acquisition sequence if the more-preferred stored SID element is not acquired during the first more-preferred SID acquisition sequence. See, column 10, line 65 to column 11, line 13 and Figure 2.

Hooper also discloses all the elements of claim 4, including, wherein the logic circuitry is operative to attempt acquisition by comparing received broadcast SID information with one of the plurality of stored SID elements ranked according to an order of preference including at least one more-preferred stored SID element and at least one less-preferred stored SID element. See, column 9, lines 1 to 11 and claim 1.

Hooper also discloses all the elements of claims 5 and 13, including wherein the roaming list includes a (storing) first more-preferred stored SID element, (storing) a second more-preferred stored SID element, and a plurality of less preferred SID elements wherein logic circuitry is operative to perform the second more-preferred SID acquisition sequence, that includes repeatedly attempting acquisition of the first more-preferred stored SID element, repeatedly

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attempting acquisition of the second more-preferred stored SID element and a single acquisition attempt of each of the at least one less-preferred stored SID element. See column 9, line 46 to column 10, line 65 and Figure 2, for example, if two frequencies are searched and the second frequency is determined and stored at step 92 and there are no further frequencies to search then repeated acquisition of a first and a second more-preferred SID have been done at steps 86 and 90 and single attempted acquisitions have been attempted in step 94 for the other stored SIDs for the first frequency scanned.

Hooper also discloses all the elements of claim 9, including the logic circuitry camps on at least one less-preferred stored SID element if acquisition on the at least one less-preferred stored SID element is available (column 10, lines 47 to 64) and if acquisition on the at least one more-preferred store SID element is unavailable (Id.), and wherein the logic circuitry camps on the at least one more-preferred SID stored element if the at least one more-preferred stored SID element is acquired at any time (column 10, line 65 to column 11 line 13).

Hooper discloses all the steps of claim 15, including, receiving broadcast SID information, wherein attempting acquisition is based on comparing the received broadcast SID information with one of the Plurality of stored SID elements. See, column 9, lines 1 to 11.

Hooper also discloses all the steps of claim 18, including attempting acquisition of the at least one less-preferred stored SID element as part of performing the second more-preferred SID acquisition sequence. See, column 9, lines 12 to 28.

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Hooper also discloses all the elements of claim 20, including camping on the at least one more-preferred stored SID element if acquisition of the at least one more-preferred stored SID element is available (column 9, lines 1 to 11); and camping on the at least one less-preferred stored SID element if acquisition of the at least one less-preferred stored SID element is available and if acquisition of the at least one more-preferred stored SID element is unavailable (column 10, lines 47 to 64).

Hooper also discloses all the elements of claim 16. See the rejection of claims 9 and 20.

Hooper also discloses all the elements of dependent claim 21, including wherein the more-preferred stored SID element defines the home system. See, step 78. of Fig.2.

*Claims 6, 8, 10, 14, 19, are* the wireless device, memory containing instructions executable by one or more processing devices, method claims, corresponding to the logic circuitry claim 1 respectively, and rejected under the same rationale set forth in connection with the rejection of claim 1 respectively, above.

### ***Response to Amendments & Remarks***

Applicant's arguments filed on 09/23/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

#### ***Relating to Claim 1:***

In view of the fact, that **BARBER** teaches, “Thus, the primary carrier cell site 60 communicates through frequencies within a frequency set designated for use by one of the A/B system types, while the secondary carrier cell site 70 communicates through frequencies within a frequency set designated for use by the other A/B system type. Thus, the frequency set designated for use by the primary carrier is referred to herein as the primary (or home) frequency set, while the frequency set designated for use by the secondary carrier is referred to herein as the secondary (or non-home) frequency set. The designations "primary" and "secondary" may each, therefore, refer to either "A" or "B" type carriers. According to FIG. 1, to be capable of communicating with both the primary carrier cell site 60 and the secondary carrier cell site 70, the cellular telephone 10 must be located within the overlapping portion between the primary carrier cell coverage area 62 and the secondary carrier cell coverage area 72.” (Barber, Col.5; 1-19, Col.7; 59-Col.8; 21). Thus, it is evidently, the explanations above is directed to telecommunications systems and methods for attempting secondary carrier from the frequency set, that positively, edify by **BARBER**. Hence, it is believed that **BARBER** still teaches the claimed limitations.

Also, in similar way, Hooper teaches, “After storing the scanned frequency and the acquired system identification information for an acquired system which matches a lesser preferred system on the list 64 at step 92, or after it is determined at step 90 that the acquired system identification information does not match any lesser preferred system on the list 64 and it is determined at step 94 that a default system has already been stored in memory, or, after the acquired system identification information which fails to match any of the lesser preferred systems on list 64 has been stored in memory as the default system, the method proceeds to step



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98 where it is determined if all of the frequencies within the selected frequency range have been scanned for lesser preferred systems contained on the list 64. If it is determined at step 98 that there are remaining frequencies within the frequency range to be scanned for lesser preferred systems, or if it was previously determined at step 72 that no system is transmitting at the first frequency, or if it was previously determined at step 76 that the system identification information acquired at the first frequency was unrecognizable, the method proceeds to step 100 where a next frequency within the selected frequency range is selected and scanned for periodic transmissions by a system. As previously mentioned, the next frequency to be scanned may be a preselected interval, for example, 0.2 MHz, from the previously scanned frequency or may be a discontinuous frequency, i.e., a frequency which is not within a preselected interval from the previously scanned frequency. For example, if the previously scanned frequency was the home frequency for the mobile terminal 60, the next frequency to be scanned may be a frequency which bounds the frequency range to be scanned by the mobile terminal.” (Hooper, Col.9; 45-Col.10; 10). Thus, it is evidently, the explanations above is directed to telecommunications systems and methods for attempting secondary carrier from the frequency set within a preselected interval, that positively, edify by Hooper. Hence, it is believed that, one skill in the art would recognize the amalgamation of the above two references still teaches the claimed limitations.

The above arguments also recites for the other independent claims, consequently the response is the same explanation as set forth above with regard to claim 1.

Because the remaining claims depend directly/indirectly, from one of the independent claims discussed above, as a result the response is the same justification as set forth above.

With the intention of that explanation, it is believed and as enlighten above, the refutation are sustained.

***Conclusion***

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sharad Rampuria whose telephone number is (571) 272-7870. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F. (8:30-5 EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dwayne Bost can be reached on (571) 272-7023. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000 or

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